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The



People.

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VOL. IX.—NO. 17.

HENRY KUHN, Nat'l Sec'y, S. L. P.

NEW YORK, JULY 23, 1899.

PRICE 2 CENTS.

TREASON THROTTLED.

Report of Section Greater New York's Special Session.

Wild Enthusiasm.

The Report of the Special Session of Section Greater New York, held on the 15th instant, being of more than local importance is given below—

A numerous attended and highly enthusiastic meeting of the General Committee took place on July 15th at 475 Pearl street. There was a very large number of visiting comrades, attracted by the recent occurrences, who filled the rear of the meeting hall and the ante-room. Comrades Keep and Katz presided. The minutes of the two previous meetings were adopted as read. The Committee on Credentials reports favorably on 76 delegates who were seated, and the list of whom will be found on the 4th page, under the head of "Official."

There were admitted 38 new members. Two propositions from the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth Assembly Districts were laid over for further investigation.

CORRESPONDENCE.

American Branch No. 1, Brooklyn, and the Fifth Assembly District, Brooklyn, sent communications informing the General Committee that their former delegates, Fred Schluter and Simon Berlin, respectively, had attended the "Volkszeitung" bogus General Committee meeting without authorization from their respective organizations and that both were emphatically repudiated by their respective bodies.

Comrade Chas. S. Vanderporten, delegate from the Sixth Assembly District, Brooklyn, writes that owing to unforeseen circumstances he could not attend the meeting, and expressed the hope that a final blow will be struck, which will place on the outside of the S. L. P. that reactionary element whose interest in pure and simple jobs and the taxes on lager beer, is greater than their loyalty to militant Socialism.

A letter from Arthur Kahn, who had been expelled by the Section for enrolling in the Democratic primaries, and who was re-instated by the Board of Appeals, was received notifying the Section of his resignation from the S. L. P. A delegate called out: "I move the letter be referred to K. Ibsen." (Loud laughter.) The letter was placed on file.

In accordance with the By-Laws, the committee then proceeded to make nominations for officers of the Section for the ensuing six months. The list of nominees will be found on the 4th page, under the head of "Official."

REPORT OF CITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Open air meetings are held at Fort George on Sunday afternoons. Comrades Joseph Wright, Olpp and Diamond were elected a committee to assist the Organizer in this matter.

The following general votes have been taken:

On question of severance from Liedertafel, 323 votes were cast in favor and 288 against.

On the plan of reorganization proposed by the Brooklyn Borough meeting, 272 votes were cast against the plan and 223 in favor.

On the censure of the General Committee and the Organizer, proposed by that same meeting, 250 votes were cast against and 199 in favor.

The Organizer has agitation stamps for sale among sympathizers. His temporary headquarters are at 23 Duane street, care of W. L. Brower.

At a special meeting, held on July 10, the Executive Committee adopted the following resolution, calling this special session:

Whereas, at the last meeting of the General Committee, the Volkszeitung PEOPLE TWO crowd tried to obtain control of the meeting, first by fraud, and then by force, and

Whereas, failing in their attempts, this same crowd of pure and simpliers and small traders published in the Volkszeitung a call in which they presume to disavow the regularly and constitutionally elected officers of the party, national, State and local, and called a meeting of this element for the election of officers in an unconstitutional and illegal manner, the meeting to be held, at that, on the same day it is called in, and called at that in a paper printed in a foreign language, excluding the American element;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the delegates signing this call, together with the branches which they claim to represent, stand suspended pending further action;

Resolved, further, to call a special meeting of the General Committee on Saturday evening, 8 P. M. sharp, at the meeting place of D. A. 49, 475 Pearl street, just west of Park row.

ACTION TAKEN ON REPORT OF THE CITY EXECUTIVE.

Delegate Vogt thereupon offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted with great applause:

WHEREAS, A body of men, without authority or representative capacity, and in violation of the party constitu-

tion, presumed, on the 10th inst., to style themselves the "General Committee of Section Greater New York," and to usurp powers that even the lawfully constituted General Committee is not clothed with;

WHEREAS, The said usurpatory body impudently presumed to depose, not the Section's and State officers only, but also the party's national officers; and to adopt denunciatory resolutions that seem dictated either by Tammany Hall or Republican heelers, or labor fakirs, or all of them together—against the party's good name and its most trusted officers, whose administration the party has again and again upheld;

WHEREAS, The creatures of that usurpatory body attempted to loot the party's premises by force of arms, and, failing in that, have impudently and feloniously given their countenance to a dirty lampoon that has piratically assumed the colors, style and name of the party's honored English national organ, "THE PEOPLE," and have destroyed the party's German organ, the "Vorwärts"; and

WHEREAS, The same creatures of the same usurpatory body, finding themselves foiled and all their intrigues frustrated to prevent THE PEOPLE from appearing, have enlisted, though fruitlessly, the aid of capitalist federal officials to prevent the party's voice from being heard; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the action of the City Executive in suspending the members and subdivisions of Section Greater New York that participated in the above named unlawful gathering, be and is hereby approved; and that the Organizer be instructed to immediately bring charges before the Grievance Committee against the ringleaders of each of the members who has directly or indirectly taken a hand in this labor-fakir-inspired and otherwise corrupt conspiracy against the best interests of the labor movement in America.

ON NOMINEES TO FILL VACANCY ON N. E. C.

There were four nominations made to the National Executive Committee to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Comrade Matchett. Simpson and Moren declined. Morris Hilquit and Comrade Peter Fleiberg accepted. As Hilquit has taken office under the bogus General Committee, the Chair rules that he cannot be a candidate for Section Greater New York for the National Executive Committee. In connection with this the Organizer read a letter by Comrade J. Wilenkin, which is also subscribed to by Mrs. Moren, that said Hilquit stated publicly that he voted for Recorder Goff because, he said, "Goff would reform the courts, and thereby benefit the working people." (Hilquit is a lawyer.) The letter was referred to the Grievance Committee.

A motion was then made and carried that neither the Section nor any of its subdivisions in future send any reports to the N. Y. Volkszeitung. Also, to exclude the reporter of that paper from party meetings.

ACTION ON THE VOLKSZEITUNG PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION.

Delegate Patrick Murphy offered the following resolution which was adopted amid applause:

WHEREAS, The Socialistic Co-operative Publishing Association—founded, nursed and kept alive by the Socialist Labor Party—has betrayed the trust reposed in it to the extent of appealing to capitalist officials to aid it in smothering the party's voice, and has become the publisher of papers that directly oppose the S. L. P., that aid and abet all the foes of the labor movement, and that has finally so completely lost caste as to be hailed as an ally against the S. L. P. by the capitalist press of this city; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this General Committee of Section Greater New York, in special session assembled this 15th day of July, 1899, does hereby instruct the City Executive Committee to gather the loyal members of the party who are still members of the said association, and cause immediate proceedings to be instituted to dissolve the association and wind up its affairs, and thus put an end to both a nuisance and treason.

GREETINGS TO THE COMRADES OF OTHER SECTIONS.

Delegate Joseph Wright offered the following resolution, which was also adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, That Section Greater New York sends greetings to the Comrades throughout the land, and bids them be of good cheer; it sends to them the assurance that it will relentlessly stamp treason and reaction out of its ranks; that the post it holds will be held safe at all hazards; and that, victorious over conspiracy at home, it will never allow the party's banner to trail, or its motto—"War to the knife against capitalism, together with all its various outposts"—ever to be dimmed.

Delegate Kuhn announced that Comrade Brauckmann, treasurer of the suspended Branch of the Twenty-eighth Assembly District, has in his possession \$54.54, which he turns over to the Section in accordance with the By-Laws. The Organizer was ordered to give to Comrade Brauckmann a receipt for the money.

Other Comrades also announce that they have in their possession funds of suspended subdivisions. They were ordered to turn it over to the Section.

Moved and carried to instruct the

(Continued on Page 4.)

TO READERS AND COMRADES.—Take notice that the inscription "Henry Kuhn, Nat'l Sec'y, S. L. P." is inserted on the front page of THE PEOPLE, immediately under the title, to the right of the date. The insertion is made, and will continue to stand until further notice, in order to enable the reader, at first glance, to distinguish the Party organ from the counterfeit article that the "Volkszeitung" reactionists are attempting to cheat the public with. Carry the news to Mary!

RHODE ISLAND'S

Largest State Convention Yet Held by the Party.

Ringed Resolutions on Several of the Issues that are now up—Practical Measures to Cope With the Capitalist Election Laws—Immense Amount of Socialist Literature Distributed—Bright Prospects.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., July 10.—The State Convention of the S. L. P. in Rhode Island was held Sunday, July 9, in Textile Hall, Providence. Members were present from every Section in the State; it was the largest convention held by the Party in Rhode Island.

The Secretary of the State Committee reported the standing and growth of the Party in the past year and the expansion of the economic wing of the Socialist movement in the State, by means of the S. T. & L. A., to even terms with the political wing and its natural ally, the S. L. P. The establishment of the S. T. & L. A. has brought many new recruits to the Party, assured larger audiences for our propaganda meetings, and given the Party a hearing in localities hitherto hostile to our agitation. The Secretary recommended the adoption of a plan for securing a certain fund for agitation and campaign work, and it was voted to issue coupon books for this purpose. On the Secretary's recommendation that a permanent organizer be appointed to conduct the Party's work it was voted to have a permanent State Organizer at a salary of \$10 per week and transportation expenses, the State Committee to elect him as soon as the plan for increased revenues was in operation. A new constitution for the Party in the State was adopted to meet the capitalist peculiarities of the caucus act recently made a law.

The Treasurer of the State Committee reported the income of the Party for the past year as \$898, and the expenses about \$930. He also reported that the excursion on July 2nd would net the Party between \$400 and \$500.

The Literary Agent and the Financial Secretary made detailed reports. The Secretary of the Speakers' Club reported more than 400 meetings held throughout the State at an expense for hall rents and car fares of over \$300. There were 94,000 English appeals distributed since last July, 15,000 French, also 11,000 doggers and 10,000 cards, advertising meetings.

Comrades J. Reid, P. McDermott and T. F. Herrick were elected a committee on resolutions and the following is their report:

"The Committee on Resolutions respectfully recommend the adoption of the following as an expression to guide the comrades of the rest of the country as to our position on the following questions:

VOLKSZEITUNG CONTROVERSY.

WHEREAS, It would be a needless repetition for us to again enumerate the charges so well covered in the resolutions passed by the State Committee on June 10th, and published in the official organ of the Party on June 18th; be it therefore

RESOLVED, That this convention unqualifiedly re-indorse the same and approve the action of the State Committee in their prompt and efficient handling of the matter.

S. T. & L. A.

WHEREAS, An intelligent, solidified, class-conscious proletariat is a recognized necessity for the overthrow of Capitalism; be it hereby

RESOLVED, That we recognize in the S. T. & L. A. a worthy and necessary ally of the S. L. P. in the attainment and final accomplishment of that end.

SLATERSVILLE STRIKE.

WHEREAS, The lately organized Local Alliance of the S. T. & L. A. at Slatersville has been forced into one of the many economic battles which are but the recognized fruits of the present system of Capitalism and

WHEREAS, Their attitude and actions are those of an honest, militant, uncompromising body of wage-workers recognizing the class struggle and the means for its abolition—the S. T. & L. A. and the S. L. P.; be it hereby

RESOLVED, That this convention heartily endorse their strike, and urge them to call upon all comrades to assist them financially to the limit of their ability."

The report was adopted unanimously, and copies ordered forwarded to the Party press.

The State Committee was increased from seven to ten members, and Providence selected as its seat for the ensuing year.

Numerous routine matters were disposed of, and the convention adjourned with the record of having a larger attendance, considering more matters of business, and transacting same in less time than any previous convention.

T. CURRAN, Secretary of Convention. Providence, R. I., July 10, 1899.

COOPER UNION MASS MEETING.—Section Greater New York will celebrate its rejuvenescence by Mass Meeting next Monday evening, the 24th instant, at Cooper Union. Let every comrade and friend, at all within reach of the Hall attend. Let us rejoice together.

The receipt of a sample copy of THE PEOPLE is an invitation to subscribe.

KENTUCKY'S

First State Convention Held by the S. L. P.

Its Manifesto to the Voters of the State—The Party's Stand on Trusts and Concentration—No Bogus Cries—Warning Against Middle Class Demands and Old Parties' False Promises—A Full State Ticket.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., July 16.—The State Convention of the Socialist Labor Party of this State met in this city and issued the following address to the voters of the State:

ADDRESS.

The paramount questions before the people to-day are those of the centralization of capital into trusts, and the increasing introduction of modern labor-saving machinery. The gigantic trusts, of which there are now over four hundred in existence, have pronounced the downfall of the middle class, and that class is being steadily forced into the ranks of the wage-working class, there to compete for employment with the already underpaid wage worker.

The trusts, secured against competition by the possession of unlimited capital and superior machinery, can thus dictate the wages received by labor, and also the prices paid by the laboring class as consumer of its own product. Furthermore, through the wholesale introduction of mechanical powers, a large per cent. of the working class is perpetually unemployed, thus creating a reserve army which must necessarily tend to keep wages at the point of bare subsistence for those who are still so fortunate as to be employed.

Recognizing these facts, the Socialist Labor Party knows that capitalist combination are a natural growth of our competitive system, and consequently does not join in the bogus cry of "Down with the trusts!" raised by old-party politicians and office seekers, who are totally ignorant of economic development and social science.

The present middle class cry of "Down with the trusts!" is, in its very nature, similar to the cry of "Down with machinery!" raised by the wage workers, who are as yet ignorant of the evolution of industry.

The Socialist Labor Party recognizes that the trusts are not wrong in themselves, but that it is the present private ownership in the means of production and exchange that are wrong and detrimental to the majority of the people.

Protection, free trade, sound money and free silver, the capitalist issues that have been used to hoodwink the working classes of this country for the last decade or more, have lost their drawing power and are consequently shelled to give way to the trust question.

Therefore, the Socialist Labor Party again declares that it is the duty of all thoughtful and sensible workmen to repudiate the old parties of broken promises by joining and voting for the Socialist Labor Party, with a view to ending the present class struggle by taking control of the political powers of government.

This, workmen of Kentucky, is the only solution of the trust and labor problems.

Once the laboring class have control of the nation, States and cities, it follows naturally that they will be masters of the trusts by taking legal possession of the means of production and exchange, and operating the same in the interest of the whole people. Such must and will be the final solution of the labor problem, for science and reason both dictate it, and it is the historical mission of the working class to demand it. The lines are clearly drawn, the issues are plain. Which do you choose, capitalism or Socialism—capitalism, with all its misery and degradation, its immorality and prostitution, its wage slavery, resulting in Homesteads and Hazeltons, its planless production and social anarchy, and its brutal and inhuman struggle for existence, fostered and upheld by the capitalist parties of all descriptions; or Socialism, with its happiness and industrial freedom, its better and purer opportunities for the development of the individual, its abundance of the necessities of life, its planful and systematic production and exchange, and its higher and nobler incentive for human labor and action tending to a final unification of the whole human race in a co-operative commonwealth.

Reinforcing the national platform of the Socialist Labor Party, a copy of which is appended herewith, the Socialists of Kentucky submit the foregoing manifesto, together with the following State and municipal ticket to the voters of Kentucky:

Workmen of nations, unite!

STATE TICKET.

For Governor—Albert Schmutz, of Louisville.

State Treasurer—Jas. Delaney, of Newport.

Superintendent of Public Instruction—W. S. Palmer, of Newport.

Auditor of Public Accounts—R. P. Caldwell, of Louisville.

Commissioner of Agriculture—Labor Statistics—Jas. O'Hearn, of Louisville.

LOUISVILLE MUNICIPAL TICKET. Aldermen—Frank Giffey, James Doyle, Lorenz Kleinhenz, Hugo Lange, Chas. Metz, L. Werner.

TAKE NOTE.—THE PEOPLE'S, "Vorwärts" and N. E. C. of the S. L. P.'s address is 61 BEEKMAN STREET. All communications, money orders, etc., should have the above address clearly stated.

DOWN IN CHAOS.

"And the world was without form and void; and darkness was over all."—[Gen. 1, 2. (revised.)]

One phrase which our windy teachers—editors, political economists, statesmen, and diplomaed shallow-pates generally—love to roll over their tongues, when philosophizing to us of this best of all social systems in the best of all possible worlds, is "Our Complex Social System." The sonority and unctuous roll of it carry conviction and comfort to gaping listeners, just as the word "Mesopotamia," pronounced by the good Methodist local brother every time it was his turn to preach, comforted and edified the old woman in the third pew from the front. But, like many another current sonorous phrase, it is nothing but a phrase, fashionable and empty of sense. Our social system is not a system, and it is not social; it is nothing but a fortuitous concourse of juxtaposed atoms and units, an irregular and accidental shape that it daily and hourly takes from the undesigned and undetermined tumbling together of a mass and mess and hodge-podge of heterogeneous and uncorrelated elements. It is merely a chaos, a jostle, a mob, where everybody aims—he knows not how—to attain—he only vaguely knows what—some individual and personal happiness, by pushing and pushing and shoving and shoving blindly along the line of the immediately and momentarily least resistance. In such a chaotic push it follows, of course, that this mass's morals, philosophy, religion and all its 'ologies, will be those of the jostle, the crush and the push—blind, inchoate, uncorrelated, momentary, makeshift and false. Of this fact we have hourly evidence and proof. In this chaos, where the strong elbow, the heavy foot, the hard fist, the cunning brain and the essential requisites for making your own way through the snarled-up mass, and deflecting everybody else's, we see, consequently, that our laws, made, pretendedly, to "govern" this headless, tailless, heartless, bowless conglomeration, are chaotic, temporary and makeshift, eternally revised, repealed and amended to adapt themselves for a moment to the eternally changing convolutions of this writhing, squirming, wriggling, shapeless mass of agony. Hence the eternal mist of all laws, religion and "philosophy."

And out of this human chaos comes everything chaotic. Where all is jostling and eternal friction there must be generated all the heat and lurid fire of hell. Hence the outblowings and eruptions of blind hates and anger, and the mighty chaotic explosions of war, followed by deep, depressive spells of exhaustion and a blind, remorseful feeling that war is somehow an infernal foolishness, and a blind, inchoate wish that the whole infernal jostle and shove could be carried on some impossible "Christian" and "humanitarian" principle or other, in some inconceivable and impossible manner. Hence, too, all the ungovernable agony and torture of this mass of itself, as seen by the poverty, misery, crime, disease, famine and universal pain, the resultant sum total of the universal mutual neutralization of the efforts of all the units of the mass to out-jostle each the other; and the weary discomfiture of ordinary social philosophy and religion in their pert, pigmy and self-conceited pretences to comprehend, explain and guide it and shape it to some end, and their retirement to their last resources—the one to its "systems" of platitudes and inane phrases, such as "supply and demand," "the laws of commerce," "balance of trade," "the genius of our institutions," etc.; the other to its utterly unreachable and unarguable premise that this "mysterious," God-permitted problem will all be "explained in the other world."

The original chaos of earth long ago resolved itself into some sort of order. Strictly speaking, there never was any chaos; the original agglomeration of elements was all orderly; and all the evolution of the earth and the universe has been from order to order. It is only the WORLD, the human race, that is chaotic; and the only problem is how to teach this jumbled-up, blind, groping, staggering, disorderly progeny of an orderly earth to take pattern by it, and submit itself to the eternal laws of collectivity and interdependence and be happy.

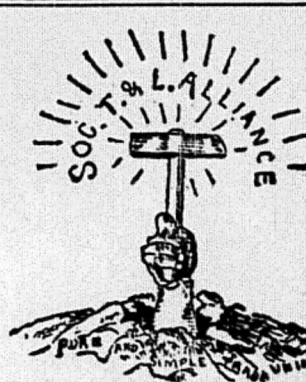
In all the ages there have been minds that have possessed the knowledge of what was the key to the resolution of this human chaos to order—still, small voices, heard only by those SEEKING wisdom; or solitary voices crying in the wilderness to the mob too chaotically mad to heed it has taken millenniums for those voices to get a hearing by any large audience, and we, THE SOCIALISTS, are that audience, the only large body of people to whom the "mystery" of human chaos, depravity, and misery is plain, and who are not reduced to the strait of looking for heaven "beyond the grave." Instead of making the grave the exit from misery to heaven, we would (and will when we get the power) make the grave the peaceful end of heaven on earth, and take chances with those who know no more than we do, of the future beyond.

Meanwhile chaos will endure. Its reduction to order is as yet many weary steps away, and by what sort of upheavals and sore pain and travail it shall come, none can tell; and pending that time I shall endeavor to tell of some of the doings there, and the lessons to be drawn therefrom.

F. SCRIMSHAW.

Arlington, N. J.

The receipt of a sample copy of THE PEOPLE is an invitation to subscribe.



The Lasters' Protective Union, with headquarters in Lynn, Mass., decided by a referendum vote to withdraw from the L. P. U. and join the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, and on the 11th instant instructed its Acting Secretary, Michael Crotty, to apply at headquarters for a charter.

This organization was until recently in Tobin's body; due to the fakir developments in the latter and its general breakdown, it withdrew and remained independent for a time. The growth, soundness and vigor of the S. T. & L. A. has thus completely rescued the Lynn lasters from the clutches of the A. F. of L. labor fakirs.

The ill-starred trolley men of Brooklyn are just now the foot-ball of the Stock Exchange speculators. That these trolley men have, not one, but scores of grievances, and grievous ones at that, has repeatedly been pointed out in these columns: their hours are inhumanly long, especially when the nerve-straining nature of their work is considered; their pay is scandalously low; the tricks by which even this pittance is still further pared down are despicable; the numerous impositions to which they are subjected are fiendish. All this has been repeatedly commented on, and any one of these wrongs justified the rebellion of a strike. This condition of things is now turned to profit by the Bears of the Stock Exchange, who, through a strike, hope to lower the price of trolley stocks and thus make large profits. Through the medium of their labor fakirs the thing was brought about. A strike was started—and will be declared off just as soon as, the stocks having gone down low enough, the Bears are ready to purchase large blocks of them, and then become Bulls.

The strike, that is to say, the economic struggle of the Working Class, tho' unsuccessful in its immediate demands, CAN be a step forward towards emancipation. But it can be that only when class-consciously conducted. When, however, the wage-slave submits to filling the ignoble rôle of a foot-ball, when his feelings can be played upon by his exploiters, when he can allow himself to serve as food for capitalist cannon and as manure for impure labor leaders,—then all his economic struggles are worse than so much time wasted; dependency, the enervating sense of helplessness, overcomes him, and he sinks lower and lower in the scales.

The strike, the economic struggle of the Working Class, has become worse than a rusty weapon; it has become a boomerang. It is for the New Trade Unionists, the Alliance men, to furnish up the weapon anew, to restore it to its right purpose, to place it in the hands of a rejuvenated, class-conscious, self-respecting Working Class, and, coupling it with S. L. P. ballot, cleave with it the Capitalist System to the waist.

Another "Labor Law" declared unconstitutional! The Supreme Court of Colorado unanimously sits down on the Eight-Hour Law. Some Labor Fakir, some capitalist politician "made his haul" while the original farce of "enacting the law" was being performed. The deluded wage slaves of the State, however, remain plucked—and will continue so to be until the Voice of Redemption, uttered by the Socialist Labor Party, split their ear-drums, wake them up and marshal them to the conquest of the public powers by THEMSELVES.

PITTSBURG, July 15, 1899.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED, That we condemn the fraudulent action of the reactionary element of Section Greater New York in "deposing" the officers and members of the N. E. C. of the S. L. P. and

That we heartily endorse the tactics and methods as employed by the N. E. C. of the S. L. P. in offering all the resistance in their power towards the vandalism of those who will meet the unqualified condemnation of the Party throughout the country; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we unqualifiedly adhere to the New Trade Union tactics of the S. L. P., as expressed in its Party papers, THE PEOPLE and "Vorwärts" heretofore, and we offer our moral and financial assistance in upholding the S. L. P., the S. T. & L. A., and the tactics of the S. L. P.

F. E. BLUNCK, Sec'y. By order of Local No. 189, S. T. & L. A.

Remember that the address of

THE PEOPLE

is now

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Room 805,

Box 1576, N. Y. CITY, N. Y.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential)..... 2,068
In 1890..... 13,331
In 1892 (Presidential)..... 21,157
In 1894..... 33,133
In 1896 (Presidential)..... 30,564
In 1898..... 82,204

You but stand in the way and belittle our
Cause with your "brotherly" whine
to the rich.

Stand aside, or be MEN and take Socialist
arms and fight like us boys in the
ditch.

Raise the working class flag with the Ham-
mer and Arm, for the Socialist train
clear the way.

And the rich will "reform" (like the hawk
with the chick) when he's choked
into quitting his prey.

STANISLAS CULLEN.

TO READERS AND COMRADES.

Take notice that the inscription "Henry
Kuhn, Nat'l Sec'y, S. L. P.," is inserted
on the front page of THE PEOPLE,
immediately under the title, to the right
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tempting to cheat the public with.—
Carry the news to Mary!

THE "NEW POLITICAL APPARITIONS."

A short time ago, the "philosophical"
editorial department of the capitalist
papers blossomed forth into a series of
articles on the "New Political Apparitions,"
that would have in future "to be
reckoned with." Among the "apparitions"
Potato-Patch Pingree figured
foremost. The "philosophers" were
right, and yet wholly wrong: the new
political apparitions will have to be
reckoned with, but in a sense very dif-
ferent from the one meant.

When the Pullman or American Rail-
way Union strike broke out, this Pin-
gree rocketed himself into notoriety, and
kept on ascending in a pyrotechnic
splendor of pyrotechnic displayfulness
of "Reform" flashes, stars, flowers and
sparks. He was broad as the spheres;
not a freak "Reform" notion was too
freakish to be excluded from his hos-
pitable breast, or from the fluent
speeches, that, like water, poured out
of a can, flowed out of his mouth. From
"municipal ownership" to a Glasgow,
down to "single tax," all were welcome,
all were preached. Of course, Pingree
pronounced himself a "Friend of Labor."
What else could he be, being so
"radical"? The "suckers," of which
the late lamented Phineas T. Ba'nun
said there was one born every minute,
bit at the bait, and the Pingree-Rocket
rose, and rose higher still. The "Labor
Vote," that valuable, indispensable fish
that all frauds and schemers angle for
with "Reform" bait, flocked to Pingree.
He became Mayor, he became Gov-
ernor. It was at that season that the
"philosophical" articles started. The
"philosophers" looked on in alarm:
here was the apparition of a Pingree,
holding his place in the Republican
party, controlling its caucuses and pri-
maries in his city and State, dictating
his own and other nominations, suc-
cessfully overcoming opposition in his
own party's machine, looming up as a
national political magnitude! Surely,
thought they, here is demagoguery
rampant and triumphant; it will place
its stamp on the Old Parties' platforms;
the demagogues will try to, and who
knows but succeed in, forcing their own
nominations upon National Conven-
tions; these new apparitions will have
to be reckoned with; oh, Lord, what is
coming!—Quite recent the news from
Detroit, where Pingree has his shoe
factory, must have set the "philoso-
phers" at ease; it overthrows the card-
house of their reasoning.

The "Reformer," the "Labor Friend"
Pingree was struck against by his em-
ployees on account of low wages and
other routine capitalist outrages; and
simultaneously comes the announce-
ment from the best possible source that
PINGREE IS TO RETIRE FROM
POLITICS. The "apparition" was not
at all a political, it was an economic ap-
parition; it used demagogic politics
without political aspirations or ultimate
design; Pingree's acts had not pub-
lic office in view but the free advertising
of his business; it was a manoeuvre in

the competitive field against fellow-
competitors who had been crowding
him in the market. By his conduct he
was enabled to dictate terms, not in
political caucuses, but in capitalist
economic caucuses of his own trade,
and he admitted as a Peer—which he
was not before. That accomplished, he
is ready to "retire from politics," and
ready also to drop demagoguery, as the
strike of his employees demonstrates.

What Capitalist Society HAS now,
and will henceforth for a while have
to reckon with, are, not apparitions
that will contest the supremacy of its
leading members on the national po-
litical field, but apparitions that will
by demagogic arts pick up politics as
a temporary club with which to club
themselves entrance into and admission
in the economic sanctum of Upper Cap-
italism.

But the S. L. P. will presently have
a word to say in all this.

MALAPROP HADLEY.

The election of Prof. Hadley to fill the
office of President of Yale College, in
the place of President Dwight, resigned,
is a matter of much more significance
than appears on the surface.

Time was when the President of Yale
was chosen, had to be chosen, from
the theological fraternity. Down to
President Dwight, the Yale Presidents
were all taken from active pulpits duty.
The College, like all our old American
colleges, was originally, if not a theo-
logical seminary exactly, at any rate
the product of the intense theologic
disputations that prevailed here at one
time, each sect, if at all capable, setting
up its own college. Theologic wars
declined by degrees, until the old issues
on which they turned became like vol-
canoes burnt out. This notwithstanding,
habit, coupled with the original
source of these seats of learning, kept
the President's seat of the old colleges
invariably in the possession of a theo-
logian, of one, at that, of the denomina-
tion that founded the institution. The
election of a non-theologian by Yale
is a record breaker; and the choice hav-
ing fallen not upon an expounder of
divinity, as formerly, but upon an ex-
pounder of Political Economy—Hadley
was Professor of Political Economy at
Yale—together with the reasons given
therefor, render the event all the more
significant.

Theologic questions have become
toys to entertain idle minds; the social
question, now agitating the country,
is the living issue. How deep the stream
of this issue runs, and how wide it
reaches, may be judged by the new de-
parture in Yale. The College, feeling
compelled to be, or seek to be, a living
power, finds itself constrained to aban-
don the elemental standard by which its
Presidents were chosen, and adopt a new
one. The theologic standard is thrown
away, the economic is taken up.

This would be significant enough,
even if that were all that is connected
with the affair. It would be signifi-
cant enough of the new age we are liv-
ing in. But there is more.

The Ship of State crossed the bars
and entered the ocean of the present is-
sues with the Labor political uprising
in New York City of 1886. Many in-
cidents of similar nature had preceded
the uprising of '86, but none was either
of the magnitude of that, or, judging
by subsequent events, so epoch-mak-
ing. It is since then only, and closely
connected with what happened then,
that the Labor Movement began to real-
ize its political essence and began to
beat at the doors of public power. Now,
then, it was in that very year that the
now President of Yale, then Professor
of Political Economy, appeared with an
essay in the "Forum," the purport of
which was to allay the apprehensions
which the troubled times had raised
among the capitalist class; his conten-
tion was that such outbreaks were in-
significant; that they were not symp-
toms of any deep underlying causes,
and, consequently, are only flashes in
the pan; that similar things had hap-
pened before and had passed away,
leaving society in peace and quiet, and
"Law and Order" supreme; the affair
of '86 and the dissatisfaction then pre-
valent he imputed to pure psychology,
a temporary aberration; and so forth,
and so on.—The writer of THAT article
is thirteen years later chosen President
of Yale, despite Yalean tradition that its
President must be a minister; he is cho-
sen, just because he knows nothing of
theology, just because he was supposed
to know all about Political Economy
and Sociology, and, consequently, could
deal with the burning economic ques-
tions of the day that are driving the
country to a revolution and setting the
capitalist class at its wits' end for how
to escape the storm;—in short, HE is
elected just because of the circumstance
that the events have proved him an ab-
surd prophet and sociologic ignoramus!

Yale was right when it passed by the
theological candidates for its Presiden-
cy; it blundered, however, when it
picked up a Hadley thinking he could
help the class, the young idea of whose
boys it tries to teach how to shoot.
Mrs. Malaprop, trying to mop the At-
lantic off her premises, knew as much
of natural philosophy as the ex-Profes-
sor Hadley, now President, knows of
sociology.

Somewhat and somewhat it requires a
knowledge of the thing to be mopped

in order to do the mopping to a pur-
pose.

The tidal wave that will slump the
"Volkszeitung" corrupt conspiracy
against the Party is setting in powerful:
The donations to enable the Party to
publish THE PEOPLE, whose subscrip-
tion and other funds the conspirators
stole so as to shipwreck the paper, al-
ready run up to over \$500, as will be
seen by the receipt elsewhere in this
issue; and the resolutions from Party
organizations and other affiliated
sources are simply pouring in.

The S. L. P., in the field to stamp out
the treason of the Capitalist Class
against the Nation, will know how to
stamp out treason and reaction in its
own ranks.

The mail list at our disposal being
old, and consequently, incomplete, sub-
scribers, who receive this issue are re-
quested to do their utmost to connect
with such others who may not happen
to receive it, and to send, to this ad-
dress, 61 Beekman street, at once the
names and addresses of such subscrib-
ers, together with the date that the sub-
scription has been paid up to. THE
PEOPLE will be furnished to them for
the balance of the term.

Sections, literary agents or private
persons holding bills are requested to
remit at very earliest convenience and
always to send bill with the remittance.

Sections having no unpaid bills on
hand, will do THE PEOPLE a favor by
sending in the last receipted bill (which
will be returned), so as to enable the
office to open the account properly.
THE PEOPLE'S agents' books having
been stolen with the rest, there is no
other way of getting the accounts in
shape.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

Remarkable is the clear language of
the Bertrand, Neb., "Independent Her-
ald" in a controversy it is carrying on
with the muddled Lincoln "Nebraska
Independent." Here is a passage:

"The 'Nebraska Independent' privilege
of running a populist paper and fighting any
or as many other parties as he chooses is not de-
nied. But this does not give him license to
flood his columns with unfounded assertions,
and expect them to go unchallenged. He must
have known when he penned the statement
that 'this socialist party' represents socialism
and populism to be the same thing that it
was utterly untrue. There is not a shadow of
foundation for it. The writer is not an out-
and-out advocate of the Socialist Labor Par-
ty, though we endorse its general aims and
principles; but we have kept thoroughly in-
formed as to its objects, its progress and the
spirit which animates its membership. It is
the most uncompromising foe of concentrated
capital, in the hands of the capitalist class.
It deviates not a hair's breadth from its clear
cut program. Whether this party offers the
only active means through which the co-
operative commonwealth is to be ultimately
established is perhaps an open question, but
that it is the most formidable and effective
organized effort for the bringing together of
the wage class into an intelligent, aggressive
movement for its own emancipation, is amply
attested by its steady growth in the face of
most stubborn opposition.

Thus the tactically clear-cut, relent-
lessly uncompromising and compactly
disciplined organization of the Party
hews its way into respect. We shall not
quarrel with the Bertrand "Independent
Herald" over its lack of certainty that
the S. L. P. is the Party that will
emancipate this Nation. It will reach
certainly in the ripeness of time.

How instructive, to him who has eyes
in his head to see, is the posture of the
metropolitan press on the Brooklyn
strike: One set of papers (the ones held
by "Bear" would-be-trolley-stock-hold-
ers) are booming the strike for all they
are worth. According to these

The strikers are firm and resolute, like
men who know their rights and are determined
to maintain them.

Another set (the ones held by "Bull"
actual trolley stock-holders, the stocks
of whom are threatened with a decline
by strikes and disturbances) are run-
ning the strike down. According to these

The strike is a fizzle; almost all the cars
are running; there is no strike.

Bye-and-bye these stock exchange
disputants will come to an understand-
ing among themselves; they will then
be all "Bulls"; their labor fakir agents
will be given a bone to gnaw at and or-
dered to call the strike off;—and, if
perchance enough workmen, having
taken the strike serious, persist in their
demands, the former "Bears" will be
found acting in perfect unison with
their former Exchange adversaries, the
"Bulls," and unitedly call out: "Police!"
"Militia!" "Shoot the strikers down!"
Light! Light! ye Alliance men! Pour
light into the heads of your fellow and
deceived wage-slaves; and organize
class-conscious unions that will smash
the outposts of capitalism, the fakirs'
unions, and, over their shattered ruins,
reach the citadel of exploitation—Cap-
italism itself.

The metropolitan capitalist press con-
tinues unanimously and enthusiastically
for the "Volkszeitung."—"Correct! Every
time correct! Nor would the Party
wish it otherwise and have the issue
blurred.

The next supplement to the Socialist
Almanac (No. 3) will appear in a few
days. Subject: "Taxation." Price, 5
cents. Send your orders to the LABOR
NEWS CO., 147 East 23d street, or to
HENRY KUHN, National Secretary,
61 Beekman street, New York.

Every agitator for the S. L. P. should
be in possession of this valuable little
treatise. The pending campaigns are
going to be turned by the capitalist po-
liticians largely into "taxation" cam-
paigns, the same as recent ones were
mainly "money" campaigns.

TEN YEARS LATER.

1889—1899.

Under the title "Ten Years Later,"
Dumas wrote one of his most interest-
ing, instructive and thrilling historical
novels. The historic tale to be unfold-
ed here in this article under the identi-
cal title may be found equally inter-
esting, instructive and thrilling, if not
more so, and inspiring besides to the
student, especially the lover of the
movement in America.

Ten years ago, the Socialist Labor
Party was a "party" in name only. It
is essential to a political party, first,
that it be a pulsation of the national
life of the country itself in which the
party springs up; and, secondly, that it
be politically active. That which ten
years ago called itself the "Socialist
Labor Party," lacked both essentials.
The organization was not born of the
throbbings of life in America; it was the
result of political turmoils in Germany;
in the quarry of American political de-
velopment, it was not a formation of
this soil: the organization was like
gravel that one often finds upon ground
of different geologic formation, shot off
thither by volcanic eruptions from dis-
tant parts. As an inevitable result here-
of, political activity, or anything deserv-
ing the name, was excluded. The mem-
bership located mainly in New York, lim-
ited itself to "agitation"—after a style;
but they knew not their ground, evoked
no response, and, owing to the fre-
quently repulsive mannerisms of their
principal spokesmen, were often even
laughed at and despised; they grew dis-
heartened; the less intellectually honest,
vainer and less informed, like Alexander
Jonas, Julius Grunzig, Hermann Schlu-
eter and others, imputed their failure,
not, as in fact, to their own shortcom-
ings, but, to use their own words, to
the "hopeless stupidity and corruption
of the American people"; and thus, by
degrees, the "Party" shrank into social
clubs—singing and drinking and card-
playing societies, with an occasional
outing when a member died, and peri-
odical celebrations in which thrilling
speeches were delivered by themselves
to themselves.

While this development was going on,
there were others setting in also. Years
ago the earnings of Labor were higher;
a thrifty mechanic, who did not object
to pinching himself some, could lay by
money in bank. With the development
of the capitalist system, earnings de-
clined, savings became harder to make
and jobs rarer to get.

Driven out of the shop by improved
machinery and concentrating capital,
the workmen with savings in bank
fell back upon that, and started small
stores, in short rebounded into the mid-
dle class. One of the results of that—
the seeming increase of the middle class
—stumped the unscientific mind: the
German Socialist, Edward Bernstein,
concluded Marx was wrong, and the
vulgar economists everywhere started
new songs on the beauties of capital-
ism. Another result—the one we are
here concerned with—was the changing
of the angle of vision of the former
workman, who had become bour-
geois. Speaking only a few years ago
of the intellectual decline of the Ger-
man Social Democracy, August Bebel
referred to the numerous workmen
in Germany, who, being victimized by
reason of their political activity, had
had to be provided with small stores
by the German Party, and, with their
change of class interests, had slid off
from their pristine clear-cut radical-
ism. The economic development of
capitalism here, above referred to, that
caused workmen with deposits to be-
come small traders, wrought a like
change in them. The change told
strongly among certain German work-
ingmen.

There is a third development that
needs mention. It is akin to the one last
considered. The worker, who had some
savings, being thrown on the street by
machinery, could fall back upon his sav-
ings and become bourgeois; the worker,
who had none, stood on the ragged edge
of the abyss of Labor-Fakirism. Into
that abyss fell not a few. Their unions
became reactionary "pure and simple";
all sense of solidarity vanished; there
was no longer a question of organizing
and protecting the working class; the
union became a means for those in it to
get a job by and to put others out of
their jobs; and finally it ripened into
an engine of capitalism, sold to the po-
liticians by the leading fakirs.

Now, then, all these interests—the
German Labor Fakir, the German bour-
geois ex-workmen and the singing,
etc., society tired-out Socialist—clut-
tered in this city around and centered
in a German paper that, sailing under
the name of Socialism, was, from its in-
ception, essentially a practical business
enterprise for its own employees. The
paper was the "New Yorker Volkszeitung."

The fishiness of the "Volkszeitung"
was too rank to be concealed. Accord-
ingly, about fourteen years ago, the
"Party" element that was sound in
mind and heart, found it advisable to
establish a bona fide Party organ in the
German language—"Der Sozialist," sub-
sequently named "Vorwärts," a weekly
paper—and later managed to acquire
another weekly, in the English lan-
guage, named the "Workmen's Advocate."
The editors of these two papers,
Rosenberg and Bushe, respectively,
were like the rest of the "Party's" na-
tional officers, weak, insignificant men,
wholly unfit for their responsible posts.
Nevertheless, with all their unfitness,
Rosenberg and Bushe, saw a glimmer
of light. A political party that is not
in politics struck even them as absurd.
Accordingly, ten years ago, they began
to pull for political action. This was to
immediately run foul of the "Volkszei-
tung." The political field acts as a puri-
fier: it makes havoc of false pretences.
The "Volkszeitung" was the "organ of
the S. L. P." in this city. More or less
labored articles on Socialism did it no
harm, and an occasional good word for
the then misnomer of a Socialist Labor
Party was profitable: without these
monkeyshines the paper could not, as
it was doing, drain the Party of funds
—"upholding the Party press." That was
all right. But actual politics, the put-
ting up of an S. L. P. ticket and thus
"hostilizing customers and advertisers"
(AMONG THE LATTER OF WHOM
POLITICAL CANDIDATES OF THE
CAPITALIST PARTIES APPEARED

not infrequently)—that was a horse of
a different color, that would not do."
The "Volkszeitung" forthwith began
to nag at the then editors of the Party
organs. Rosenberg and Bushe, being
the light weights they were, allowed
themselves to be angered, and finally
driven into a preposterous, wholly un-
tenable and mischievous position. Hav-
ing got them there, and thus isolated
from the rest of the "Party" members,
whom the deep villainy of the "Volks-
zeitung" crowd rose in self-righteous
indignation. "Something had to be done
quick"; "the Party had to be saved";
and more of such cant, until the "Par-
ty" membership having been seasoned
by such a campaign of perfidy, the
"Volkszeitung" crowd found it safe to
carry out their scheme. One night they
broke into the Party's premises, took
the two papers and all their belongings;
sacked the two editors, and bounced the
National Executive Committee.—And
that was the end of that, in 1889.

Ten years have rolled by since.—ten
years equivalent to fifty. The very ne-
cessity that the "Volkszeitung," together
with its disreputable appendages, was
under to disguise its real purpose be-
hind a false issue, left it uncovered
against the real danger that it had
sought to escape—POLITICAL ACTION
BY THE S. L. P.

At the same time that the affairs of
'89 were going on in the "Party," a So-
cialist movement, to the manner born,
was being throbbled into existence by
the throbs of the nation itself. That
movement went into the existing S. L.
P., and transformed it. The very next
year it unfurled its banner in the po-
litical field and held it. The "Volkszei-
tung" element was defeated. They
valiantly sought to accommodate them-
selves to the inevitable, but could not;
bankruptcy began to stare the "Volks-
zeitung" in the face; every year that
passed made their element's position
more unbearable; in front, the ac-
celerated development of capital ren-
dered the Labor Fakir and the tax-pay-
ing small trader more and more des-
perate, while the magnificent progress
of the Party, with its increasing rev-
olutionary ardor, was burning them in
the rear. For some time the foul inter-
ests of ten years ago had been plotting
to ease their straits; their manoeuvres
to nag the Party's officers into blunders
suffered shipwreck one after the other,
and were turned upon them; then, all
else proving unavailable, they staked
their all upon a headlong coup that
should strangle the Party—and failed
ignominiously. Self-pilloried before the
membership of the whole country as
raw-boned violators of the Party con-
stitution; beaten back, in the battle of
the 10th instant, from the Party's pre-
mises that they now again sought to cap-
ture by surprise and violence—all as
narrated in last week's issue; and sub-
sequently outgeneraled in their at-
tempts to starve the Party and bar it
from the Post Office, they are to-day,
July, '99, a physically and morally
shattered crew.

The year '99 is ten years later than
'89. The S. L. P. is no longer a social
club located mainly in New York. With-
in the last ten years its inspired apostles
and its press have, with words of fire,
cast abroad the rejuvenating spark,
kindled the flame of class-consciousness
in America, and planted the standard
of the Social Revolution in the land.
The S. L. P. has become a Party, in-
deed; it has leaped the boundaries of
the city and State; it spread out North,
South and West, and now extends from
Ocean to Ocean, honored, respected,
feared, over 80,000 strong.

In 1899, the S. L. P. is no longer the
concern that can be tagged by the can-
naille of capitalist society.

Our friends, the exchanges, will kin-
dly take note of our changed address.
Papers wishing to exchange with THE
PEOPLE, National Organ of the So-
cialist Labor Party, must be forwarded
to the new headquarters—61 BEEK-
MAN STREET, this city.

Owing to last week's confusion and
delay in sending out THE PEOPLE,
and the possible miscarriage of some
numbers, several of the important ar-
ticles on the situation in New York are
reprinted in this issue.

What Shall Our Song Be?

[Written for THE PEOPLE by N. E. C. So-
merville, Mass.]

What song shall we sing while the sweat rolls
down,
And the grime works in till it clogs our
heart?
What prayer shall we pray while our senses
swoon,
And we faint as we totter from mart to
mart?

Shall we pat ourselves on our toil-warped
back,
And boast of the men our fathers were?

Shall we sing of the plenty our children lack?
Give voice to the glory of hunger's spur?

Shall our prayer be: "O Father, Creator above,
Let me crawl; let me creep with no heel on
my head
Give me but life, tho' I sacrifice love,
Let me but belly along to my bread!"

"I will not walk upright, the sun on my face,
For the knowledge shall inherit the earth."
Burnt offerings daily we'll make to the race,
The world's altar be stained with each
birth."

No hymns for our children, no chants for the
men,
But those of the battle for human right.
We'll sharpen the sword and trust that we
shall then
May march with our face to the fight.

Man's work is not all delving graves for the
dead,
Or binding the wounds of a god:
For the sake of the voiceless too often we've
bled,
For our idols too much kissed the rod.

With a strength that's a man's, with a hope
that's divine,
With the knowledge our suffering bought,
We'll extend all unbroken our far stretching
line,
Our battle is won when it's fought.

Remember that the address of

THE PEOPLE

is now

61 BEEKMAN STREET,

Room 305,

Box 1576,

N. Y. CITY, N. Y.



Uncle Sam and Brother Jonathan.

BROTHER JONATHAN—What do
you think I heard a Socialist speaker
say the other day?

UNCLE SAM—If he WAS a Socialist
speaker, you must have heard some-
thing sensible.

B. J.—Well, I didn't; he talked non-
sense. What he said was downright
treasonable to the Revolution of our
Fathers!

U. S.—That's stiff. What did he
say?

B. J.—Now, then, that Socialist said
that we workmen were nothing but
merchandise, like shoes, stockings,
pork or beef. If that is not insulting,
I don't know what is; if that is not
denying the Revolution, what is it?

U. S.—Well, I don't know what all
you mean by that Revolution. I DO
know, however, that a thing may have
been done, and yet, after a while it is
all un-done again. A Revolution, our
fathers' Revolution, may have been
successful in setting us free; but it
don't follow from that that we may
not have been subsequently re-enslaved
and turned into merchandise. If this
did happen, it would be no treason to
say so; on the contrary, it would be
folly, mischievous folly, to deny it.

B. J.—Well, that's true, too. But we
have not been re-enslaved, or turned
into merchandise.

U. S. (looks at him steadily.)

B. J.—Have we been re-enslaved?

U. S.—Let's reason together. You
read the papers, don't you?

B. J.—I do.

U. S.—Did you ever come in their
columns across the expression: "The
millionaire market?"

B. J. (amused).—Why, no!

U. S.—Why are you amused?

B. J.—Because the "millionaire mar-
ket" would mean a market in which
millionaires are bought and sold; and
that is nonsense; millionaires only
buy and sell; they are not bought or
sold.

U. S.—Just so; in other words, mil-
lionaires would be merchandise?

B. J.—Yes, and they aren't.

U. S.—Or did you ever come across
the terms: "The railroad magnate mar-
ket"? Or "The mine baron market"?
Or "The banker's market"? Or "The
corporation stock-holders market"?

B. J.—No, and for the same reason;
they are not bought and sold; they are
not merchandise.

U. S.—Correct. Now, did you ever
come across the term: "The beef mar-
ket"?

B. J.—Lots of times. That's all right.
Beef is bought and sold; it is a mer-
chandise.

U. S.—And did you ever come across
the terms: "The pork market"? Or
"the shoe market"? Or "the stocking
market"?

B. J.—Why certainly; lots of times.
And that's very natural; pork, shoes,
stockings, and so forth are all bought
and sold; they are all merchandise.

U. S.—Now, my man, refresh your
memory, and tell me whether you ever

THREE CHEERS FOR THE
S. L. P.!

(Editorial Reprinted from THE PEOPLE of July 15.)

To the Comrades, Friends and Sympathizers, and to the overwhelming majority of the 82,000 who last November did battle with the Socialist Labor Party at the polls:

A conspiracy of long standing against the Party came finally, last Monday, to a full head in this city—and the uicer was lanced by the loyal members. The center and organizer of the conspiracy was the "New Yorker Volkszeitung" and its publishing association, that is to say, interests that are opposed to the Party's progress that have long been a drag to it everywhere, in this city in particular, and that, realizing their increasingly hopeless minority, decided upon a desperate coup to save themselves by throttling the Party through the capture and destruction of its press. The make-up of this element was roughly but sufficiently sketched in the article "Sign Posts" of last April 2, and has been subsequently amplified by the addresses of the National Executive Committee to the Party and its friends.

The report of the last meeting of the General Committee of Section Greater New York, held last Saturday, the 8th, and published elsewhere in this issue, was the beginning of the end. Unable, by fraud, to carry out their plan there, the conspirators then attempted violence. Falling in that too, they speedily played their last card. The following Monday, a call appeared in the "Volkszeitung" for a "special session of the General Committee." CALLED TO MEET ON THE VERY EVENING OF THAT DAY. The call could not possibly reach the English-speaking element, and, above all, was wholly illegal; the General Committee cannot be called in extra session but by the City Executive Committee; a handful of men calling themselves "delegates" cannot arrogate that power; but the call bore the mark of illegality in other respects; among the "callers" of the "special session" figures the Lieder Tafel, which had been dissolved by action of the General Committee, ratified by general vote.

In response to this "call," the "Volkszeitung" element met in the evening; that kangaroo body called itself the "General Committee of Section Greater New York," and proceeded to carry out its programme. That programme contemplated but one thing: to bag the Party, kill it if necessary, by destroying its national press—THE PEOPLE and the "Vorwaerts." In order to do so, the National Executive had to be removed. The kangaroo General Committee undertook the job.

Under the expressly stated provisions of the Party's national constitution, the National Executive Committee is elected, and, where needed, suspended, by a general vote of "the Section or Sections located in the city chosen as the seat of the N. E. C." The City of Greater New York being chosen as the seat of the N. E. C., the N. E. C. is chosen or suspended by ALL the Sections located in Greater New York. Located in Greater New York there are, besides "Section Greater New York" (which comprises mainly the former Manhattan and Kings counties), a number of other Sections located in Richmond and Queens counties, besides such strong language bodies as the Scandinavian Section. The power vested by the National Party in ALL these sections to elect, or suspend, and temporarily fill vacancies, was usurped by the "Volkszeitung's" kangaroo General Committee of "Section Greater New York" alone, itself a wholly unrepresentative body even of "Section Greater New York" itself, which henceforth will continue to meet in larger number and more enthusiastic than ever in the performance of the Party's work, being now freed from the incubus of the "Volkszeitung" delegates—IT "deposed" the N. E. C., and "filled the vacancies." Even if that kangaroo body were a legal body, and not the fraud it was, it alone had no power to depose the N. E. C. and elect substitutes. Being the fraudulent contrivance that it was in fact, all its transactions are rendered all the more ridiculously null and void.

But matters did not end there. It was essential to the conspiracy to render the Party forthwith tongue-tied. These gentlemen cannot stand in the light of day; public information is a thing they recoil before. THE PEOPLE and "Vorwaerts" had to be forthwith captured, so as to prevent all information from reaching the comrades and readers, leaving the "Volkszeitung" small traders, Anarchists, sordid money-lenders and pure and simple corruptionists the floor all to themselves. Accordingly, no sooner had they "deposed" the N. E. C., when a mob of at least fifty of them, consisting of a large percentage of non-members of the Party, marched down to THE PEOPLE'S, "Vorwaerts" and N. E. C.'s offices (which were situated in the "Volkszeitung" building); on their way, they were armed downstairs in the "Volkszeitung's" office with clubs and murderous bludgeons; and attempted to break into the Party's premises. The scene that ensued will be ever memorable to all who witnessed it.

THE PEOPLE, the "Vorwaerts," and the headquarters of the N. E. C. occupied the third floor of the "Volkszeitung" building. The "call" that appeared that morning in the "Volkszeitung" for a "special session" of Section Greater New York" carried distinctly the odor of the proverbial rat. In the course of the day, the premises occupied by THE PEOPLE, the "Vorwaerts," and the N. E. C. were set in a state of defence.

By 10 p. m., about 25 picked comrades were on their posts. Shortly before midnight, the membership of the new "National Executive Committee" began to put in their appearance, demanding admission "by virtue of their office." Admission was denied them; a party ensued; and then suddenly the armed rioters made a rush up the stairs. The ante-room became a field of battle; fierce did the conflict rage for fully 10 minutes; blood flowed freely. Among the wounded comrades who that night defended the property of the Party, are more, its insignia of office and the Party itself against the mob of reactionists organized by the "Volkszeitung," were Comrades John and

Charles Keveney, Owen Diamond, Arthur Keep, Peter Flebiger, Max Forker, Henry Lightburn, Henry Kuhn, Gould and Steinberg. The wounded were promptly taken care of, new forces moved to the front, and the "Volkszeitung" crew, despite its numerical superiority, began to lose ground. At that moment the police, attracted by the crowd that gathered on the street, forced their way up the stairs, stopped the fight, and began ordering everybody out, even threatening to lock up all. Again, at that moment, the Party's officers saved the situation. The police officers had to recognize that the editors of THE PEOPLE and "Vorwaerts," as well as the National Secretary, were on their own premises, and in possession, while the "Volkszeitung" crowd, on the contrary, were equally evidently in the posture of men committing a breach of the peace. While this discussion was going on, the members of the Board of Directors of the "Volkszeitung," guided by their own and a shyster lawyer's stupidity, stepped in and unwittingly aided the Party officers. These Board of Directors' people, seeing that their rioters had been successfully resisted and very thoroughly clubbed, had no more stomach for fight; they promptly pledged themselves to the sergeant at the police station, whither they had rushed in despair, that there would be no more fighting, that they would leave those in possession in quiet possession, and that all they wanted was "a guarantee that nothing would be removed from the premises."!!!! Their own admission of who was in possession was promptly turned against them. "They admit," said the Party officers, to the police, "that we are in possession; so we are; you find us; as to whether the property on this floor shall remain with us or not, that is a question that involves proprietary rights, and is not for us to decide; that is for the courts to decide; your duty now is, finding us in possession, to protect us against house-breakers; we now call upon you to clear that gang out!"—and the individual rioters were pointed out by the order: "Put this man out!" The order was executed; the Party remained in peaceful possession that night; the next day, Tuesday, all its property on its premises, that is to say, all the insignia of its authority, together with all the furniture, was removed to the new headquarters, under the very noses of the baffled and impotently tooth-grinding "Volkszeitung" crew, gathered in knots all day in the neighborhood—the larger beer Anarchist, Justus Schwab, among them.

There are Doubting Thomases, who, even when they see the ears of a rat wiggling and the tail of the rat wriggling, hesitate to conclude that a rat lies in between; they think it may possibly be a cow, a hippopotamus, a lamb, perchance. The more clear-headed know that between the ears of a rat and the tail of a rat only a rat and nothing else can be. The conduct of the "Volkszeitung" and its backers, centered in the Publishing Association, has for quite a while clearly enough denoted the RAT. Many doubted. To-day they can doubt no longer. The Anarchist conduct of the kangaroo General Committee, which was essentially nothing but an adjourned meeting of the reactionary Publishing Association, culminating with the attempted and evidently well prepared physical assault upon the Party premises, settles the point.

The "Volkszeitung" element, with its set contempt for this country and its persistent ignorance of our people's language, history and life, had long been a mill-stone around the neck of the Party, in this locality particularly; the Party's progress made the Party more and more intolerable to them; the mill-stone, fortunately, has at last worn out the bonds that tied it to the Party's neck; the mill-stone is now rolled off.

Section Greater New York, whose aggressive and progressive element typifies the Party throughout the land, holds now more vigorously as well as enthusiastically than ever, the Party's banner on high.

The rapidness with which things have developed, prevented the Party's officers from being at all points prepared. This happens especially with our national press. The press and business office material as well as large sums of money belonging to both THE PEOPLE and the "Vorwaerts" were wholly in the possession of the Party's foes. As a result, the "Vorwaerts" cannot appear this week, and may be forced to discontinue. It will be the duty of THE PEOPLE readers to promptly convey this information to the unprepared German comrades, readers of the "Vorwaerts"; the sheet they will henceforth receive through the German mailing list that the Party gathered, but is now stolen from it, will be only a rebash of the hopelessly vicious, stupid, unscrupulously mendacious and hostile daily, "Volkszeitung." Let them spurn the fraud.

With THE PEOPLE things stand better. Though all that belonged to it could not be rescued in time, some has been rescued—among these is part of the mailing list—but its money remains stolen. Most of our readers will receive the paper in due time, but many will not, owing to THE PEOPLE also being robbed of its latest mail list. But this inconvenience and many minor ones will be overcome. Let the comrades and friends notify all the readers whom they know; a new and full mailing list will soon be in shape again, and greatly enlarged, as the inevitable response of an indignant Party to the disgraceful conduct of traitors that long remained masked in its ranks.

COOPER UNION MASS MEETING.—Section Greater New York will celebrate its rejuvenescence by Mass Meeting next Monday evening, the 24th instant, at Cooper Union. Let every comrade and friend, at all within reach of the Hall attend. Let us rejoice together.

Remember that the address of
THE PEOPLE
is now
61 BEEKMAN STREET,
Room 805,
Box 1674, N. Y. CITY, N. Y.

SEEN WITHOUT GLASSES.

More About "A New York Policy Shop."

Ever would the wise wolf wear the sheep's wool.

The truly great scoundrel clothes himself with a good name, wears an air of virtue and cultivates the odor of sanctity.

It is not an accident that defaulting bank cashiers are Sunday school superintendents. To rob people legally a "good name" and "respectability" are more important to the "business" man and "prominent citizen" than is the jimmy to the burglar and the pistol to the highwayman.

So in politics the man who aims to hunc the people first seeks their good will and approbation. He waits at their wrongs, writhes at their sufferings, and makes believe that he is theirs—intending they shall be his.

The above in reference to the New York Journal, the paper of many "policy," but without discernible principle. Under the headline, "Answer to a Sincere Socialist," the editor of the Journal tells us the policy of that paper as follows:

"The Journal is trying to Accomplish something, to get Results. It works for what it believes can actually be brought about to-day or to-morrow."

In the fall of 1897, the Journal did "Accomplish something." It got Results. It supported the Democratic ticket, and succeeded in getting enough workmen to vote that ticket to elect it. Every department of the New York city government is controlled by the Democratic party, and Mr. Hearst flatters himself that he and his newspaper contributed more to the success of that party at that election than any other one man or any other single force.

Have the Results of that election benefited the working class? Mr. Hearst speaks for himself. I quote from the Journal. First, in relation to the police clubbing Italians during the strike on the Jerome Park reservoir. Said the Journal of May 11, 1899, editorially:

"A number of hard-working men decided to ask for one dollar and a half per day. They were employed by city contractors. The contractors are engaged in profitable work for the public. They had a right to strike. They broke no law; threatened and committed no violent act. But the police, acting on general principles, Clubbed a Good Many of Them."

Again Mr. Hearst speaks, this time regarding the men who cleared the snow from the city streets last February, and their work completed, were kept waiting for their pay. Said the Journal, Feb. 28, editorially:

"When the snow fell New York was very glad to get poor, hungry devils to work all night in the cold and dig paths through the streets. An army of hunger volunteered, dog and shovelled, stood in the wet and the wind. Many an aching back and aching heart, and many an empty stomach worked in that silent, depressed army. And many a one from the effects of hard work and little food will fill his corner of Potter's Field sooner than was necessary. The work is done. What of the hungry man with his shovel? He stands in line begging for his pay."

The Journal then points out how, whipped by necessity, the hungry man with his claim against the city for work done is forced, by the negligence of the city officials, to make provision for his payment, to sell his claim to sharks and note-shavers at a discount, adding:

"Who is responsible in the city government for this robbery of the weak and poorest? You are responsible, Mayor of New York. And you are responsible, local boss of the Democratic machine—for you rule them all. And you are responsible, too, you brood of city understrappers, who cheat the poor and connive at the robbery of speculative sharks."

From these excerpts one gets an understanding of that phrase, "The Journal is trying to Accomplish something, to get Results."

The Mayor of New York is Mayor of New York by the help of W. R. Hearst. The "local boss of the Democratic machine" is such by virtue of the success the Journal worked to bring about. Having led the working class into the shambles of the Democratic party, Mr. Hearst makes pretense of great concern that some of them are clubbed; having loosed a tiger, he deplores the fact that he waxes fat while his victims hunger. The man who murders his victim with an axe might as reasonably blame the axe for his crime, as for Mr. Hearst to make attack on officials of New York, placed in power by his efforts.

More than 200,000 of New York's working class voted exactly as the Journal advised them.

Every Italian with clubbed and aching head can personally thank Mr. Hearst and his like. Had the club that he was struck with been in Mr. Hearst's own hand, the blow could not have been more direct nor his guilt more clear. More than any other one man Mr. Hearst made and raised to office the powers that gave force and direction to the clubs of those policemen.

When it comes to the "robbery of the weakest and poorest" in that "army of hunger," you are the man who is responsible, Mr. Hearst. Point not to the mayor and the "brood of city understrappers." They are your work and your creation, in the offices where you placed them. It is true that out of that army some will go to "Potter's Field" sooner than was necessary" because of the officials and understrappers "who cheat the poor and connive at the robbery of speculative sharks." But the infamy belongs at your door. The accusing finger points to you, and the voice of righteous judgment says, "W. R. Hearst, thou art the guilty man."

Of the past time you might have been

(Continued on Page 4.)

TO READERS AND COMRADES.—Take notice that the inscription "Henry Kuhn, Nat'l Sec'y, S. L. P." is inserted on the front page of THE PEOPLE, immediately under the title, to the right of the date. The insertion is made, and will continue to stand until further notice, in order to enable the reader, at first glance, to distinguish the Party organ from the counterfeit article that the "Volkszeitung" reactionists are attempting to cheat the public with. Carry the news to Mary!

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name, will attach such name to their communication, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

What Happened Back of That Saloon on the 10th.

To THE PEOPLE.—I have been instructed by members of the 20th A. D., as their delegate to the General Convention, to make clear my position, and also the position of the other delegates, as the only two English-speaking delegates who were present at the illegal and disgraceful meeting held in the rear of a saloon on the Bowery, on Monday evening, July 10th. The English delegates were not notified, the meeting being called and advertised solely by the "Volkszeitung" to be held on the same day. Therefore, my comrades and I, who accidentally heard of the call, attended the meeting, unconscious of the fact that it was illegal. Upon entering the meeting, I found myself transplanted from a New York sidewalk to a German beer saloon; the air was filled with tobacco smoke and the fumes of stale beer; all the windows were closed. I asked the chairman to have them opened; he told me to tell the bartender, but the bartender refused, saying that he was working in the interest of the saloon keeper, as a warm and close atmosphere tends toward the sale of more beer. The meeting was noted for two things: first, the presence of pure air and the presence of a wondrous English language. The meeting was called to order by Gerber, Comrade Sanial, De Leon, Matchett, Brown and Murphy were denounced in the strongest language possible; they also denounced the English-speaking branches, their determination being expressed to uphold only the German element. The first dispute arose when Comrade Brown nominated a candidate for the party for office. Mr. Brown nominated for offices who were not present, and no one seemed certain that they would accept. Some said they might, and others said they thought Comrade Brown should be shot for so doing. Every two minutes there was a dispute upon some by-law; it was talk, talk, oh, heavens! how they did talk; the confusion of languages at the tower of Babel was simple, nothing compared with that meeting; the chairman's market was constantly in motion; the scene reminded one of the closing of an Irish wake. I found it very difficult to understand the proceedings, as some spoke in German, some in English, and some in the English language. High above the din could be heard the cry of "Order, Order!" "Three beers, make mine a big one." The bartender and the chairman worked like Trojan, one ordering and the other pumping the beer. Delegates were seated who had no credentials and other delegates voted in favor of the proceedings, although they acknowledged that their Assembly was not a legal one, and that they were not bound by the laws of the party, and had to consult the printed By-Laws on every question. When the vote was taken, it was only one for the party in opposition to the muddled resolution, my comrade remaining silent.

The speeches were comical, to say the least; I took particular notice of one man, who spoke, he was an Anarchist, and he spoke in a language that I could not understand. He gesticulated with his head, arms and body, a perfect Punch and Judy show; it was quite comical. I guess he was doing an extra turn, I'm sure; he spoke in favor of physical violence and ridiculed the ballot. In short, he covered himself with perspiration and "religion." Needs I state he was loudly applauded. I left before the entertainment was finished, stifled with tobacco smoke and the fumes of beer, and thoroughly disgusted with the Anarchist proceedings. The Anarchist comrades, together with those of other nationalities, to rally around the standard of the S. L. P., and support it by every means in their power. We cannot allow the premises on the Bowery to be used as a saloon for the hands of a gang of saloon keepers and keg drinkers. When their murderous assault upon the National Executive Committee was frustrated, they resorted to a new plan, calling the "Volkszeitung" to their aid, and the "Volkszeitung" comrades, together with those of other nationalities, to rally around the standard of the S. L. P., and support it by every means in their power. We cannot allow the premises on the Bowery to be used as a saloon for the hands of a gang of saloon keepers and keg drinkers. When their murderous assault upon the National Executive Committee was frustrated, they resorted to a new plan, calling the "Volkszeitung" to their aid, and the "Volkszeitung" comrades, together with those of other nationalities, to rally around the standard of the S. L. P., and support it by every means in their power. We cannot allow the premises on the Bowery to be used as a saloon for the hands of a gang of saloon keepers and keg drinkers. 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